



**Connecticut Department of Labor
Wethersfield, CT**

Project Title	Connecticut IDA Initiative
Contact Information	Lisa Arends 200 Folly Brook Blvd. Wethersfield, CT 06109 (860) 263-6794
AFI Grant Amount	\$100,000
Nonfederal Support	\$100,000
Project Period	September 2001 – September 2006
Highlights	<p>The Connecticut Department of Labor is expanding its existing AFI Project through a Statewide consortium of Community Action Agencies (CAAs) to offer 57 IDAs for homeownership, post-secondary education, and microenterprise. The program will match participant savings at a rate of \$3 to \$1, up to a maximum of \$1,500 in savings over a 36 month period. CAAs will provide participants with economic literacy training, asset-specific training and services, case management, counseling, and crisis management. These agencies will partner with several local banks to provide participant services. Participants can also access OneStop Career Center assistance throughout the state.</p>
Target Population	The Connecticut communities of Ansonia, Bristol, Danbury, Groton, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Plainville, Stamford, and Windom.
Grantee/Collaborative Description	<p>The Connecticut Department of Labor is a joint applicant with a state consortium of CAAs. They include: ACCESS Agency, Bristol Community Organization, CAA of New Haven, Community Action Committee of Danbury, CTE, Inc., Norwalk Economic Opportunity Now, and Training, Education and Manpower, Inc. Liberty and Fleet Bank are holding reserve accounts and participant IDAs. Fleet Bank and Webster Bank contributed match funds, along with TEAM. The banks also provide services to participants.</p>